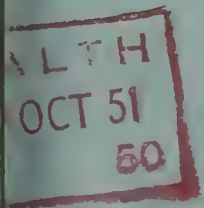


Urban District Council of  
Beaconsfield



*REPORT*

OF THE

*Medical Officer of Health*

For the Year 1950



T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



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Beaconsfield

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Public Health Department,  
Council Hall,  
Beaconsfield,  
Bucks.

September, 1951.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Beaconsfield Urban District Council.*

Dear Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1950.

As judged by the low incidence of infectious disease, the general health of the community was good. There were, however, two cases of anterior poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis), one being paralytic and the other non-paralytic. There was no case of diphtheria notified during the year, and it is worth noticing that there has been no case of diphtheria notified in Beaconsfield during the past five years. This absence of diphtheria is no doubt due in part, at any rate, to the numbers of children in Beaconsfield protected by immunization against the disease.

During the year the Council paid a good deal of attention to problems of sewerage and sewage disposal. Additional work is being continued at the Holtspur Bottom Sewage Disposal Works, and a main trunk sewer extension has been undertaken which will ultimately deal with part of the Holtspur area.

I wish to thank my colleagues and other Officers of the Council for their active co-operation. In particular I wish to thank Mr. Crosby, the Council's Sanitary Inspector and Engineer for his assistance, and finally, Mr. Chairman and Councillors, I would like to thank you for your kindly assistance during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

T. P. EVANS,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

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## STAFF

### Medical Officer of Health

T. P. Evans, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### Sanitary Inspector

John H. Crosby, F.I.A.S., F.I.S.E., M.R.S.I.

## A General and Vital Statistics

### 1. *Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area*

Area (acres) of District ... ..	5,314
Number of inhabitable Houses (per Rate Book)	2,194
Rateable Value of Area ... ..	£86,850
Sum represented by 1d. Rate ... ..	£350

### 2. *Population*

The Registrar General's population figure is 7,656.

Beaconsfield is situated about 25 miles west of London. It has its "old-town" whose red brick houses flank its broad High Street, and about three-quarters of a mile to the North East, is the "new-town," built around the more recent Railway Station.

Beaconsfield stands at the foot of one of the South-easterly spurs of the Chiltern Hills: its subsoil is mainly gravel.

Its proximity to London brings Beaconsfield increasingly within the influence of the metropolis. Both "the old" and "the new" towns are increasingly becoming London dormitory areas, and there is little reason to believe that this tendency will halt within the foreseeable future.

The "new town" has been very fortunate in its early planning in that its density of population is low, and it has attracted a large high-class population. Light industries have, however, infiltrated here and there, but they have been gentle in their intrusion.

3. *Births, Infant and Maternal Mortality**Births*

Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	16.1
Birth Rate—England and Wales	...	...	15.8

(a) <i>Live Births</i>			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	58	59	117
Illegitimate	...	...	4	2	6

(b) <i>Still Births</i>			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	—	1	1
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	8.1

(c) Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	NIL
----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

(d) Deaths of Infants under one year of age ...	...	5		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate ...	...	4	1	5
Illegitimate ...	...	—	—	—

(e) Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	...	...	4		
		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	42.7
Infant Mortality: All Infants per 1,000 live births	40.7
England and Wales per 1,000 related births ...	29.8

4. *Deaths*

Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	11.1
Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	11.6

**Causes of Death.**

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Heart diseases ... ..	13	11	24
2. Other circulatory diseases ... ..	2	1	3
3. Malignant neoplasms ... ..	7	8	15
4. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	4	5	9
5. Bronchitis ... ..	2	1	3
6. Influenza ... ..	—	1	1
7. Other respiratory diseases ... ..	1	—	1
8. Congenital malformations ... ..	2	—	2
9. Diabetes ... ..	1	—	1
10. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	—	1
11. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—	1
12. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	9	5	14
13. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	2	3
14. All other accidents ... ..	1	1	2
15. Suicide ... ..	1	2	3
16. Homicide and operations of war	2	—	2
Totals ... ..	48	37	85

**B Health Services in the Area****1. Hospital Services.**

There is no general hospital in Beaconsfield, but it has three Nursing Homes registered by the Bucks County Council. St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Candlemas Lane was excluded from the operation of the National Health Services Act, 1946, by the direction of the Minister of Health.

Beaconsfield is in the area of the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board which has delegated hospital management responsibilities to a number of Group Hospital Management Committees within its area. The Hospital Management Committee responsible for this district is the Windsor Group Hospital Management Committee with its headquarters at the Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.



## 2. *Laboratory Services*

The Public Health Laboratory Service, organised and administered by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health since 1939, will continue to be administered on a peace-time basis on behalf of the Ministry of Health for an initial period of five years after the appointed day of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The Service is concerned with Bacteriology and Epidemiology in relation to the diagnosis, prevention and control of Infectious Disease.

The Regional Public Health Laboratory is situate at Walton Street, Oxford, and, in general, undertakes, free of charge, the bacteriological examination of such specimens as sputum, nose and throat swabs, fæces, urine, blood, etc.

The chemical examination of water and sewage effluent is undertaken by the Public Analyst, Southwark Borough Council.

## 3. *Ambulance Services*

Since the operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council is responsible for the provision of ambulance facilities of all kinds. The Bucks County Council provides an ambulance service for non-infectious cases for the whole of the County through the agency of the Order of St. John and the British Red Cross Society. Two St. John Ambulances are stationed in Beaconsfield.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious cases are stationed at Aylesbury and Slough.

I wish to place on record the splendid services performed by the Beaconsfield Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and by courtesy of the Divisional Superintendent I am appending statistics showing the work done during the year.

		1948	1949	1950
Removals to Hospital	...	225	263	570
Road Accidents	... ..	24	21	20
Other Accidents	... ..	18	21	27
Mileage	... ..	4,926	6,209	13,865

In addition to the ambulances mentioned on page 7, the County Council is responsible for the provision of hospital sitting-case cars.

#### 4. *Nursing in the Home*

The following Nurse Midwives practised in the town during the year 1950:—

Miss G. Urquhart, S.R.N., S.C.M. Q.N.

Miss O. Rayner, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Their address is Nurses Home, Candlemas Mead, Beaconsfield.

In addition to attending cases in their homes, the nurses gave their services to the monthly Welfare Clinics held at the Old Rectory.

### C **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area**

#### 1. *Sanitary Inspection*

##### *Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Visits.*

##### *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

*Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	...	...	9
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*Proceedings under Public Health Acts :*

Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	4
--	-----	---

*Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding*

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	2
(2) Number of families living therein	...	...				5
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...				20
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	2
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	6
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...					26
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

All cases of overcrowding are on the Housing Officer's List of applicants for Council Houses.

## 2. *Water Supply*

Water is supplied mainly by the Amersham, Beaconsfield and District Water Company, but part of the district is supplied by Marlow Water Company. Samples were taken during the year for bacteriological analysis, and the results are shown on the following page.

The following bacteriological samples were taken during 1950:—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Supply</i>	<i>Result</i>
24th Jan.	Amersham Water Co.	Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's grading.
do.	Marlow Water Co.	do.
4th July	Amersham Water Co.	do.
do.	Marlow Water Co.	do.

A copy of the analyst's report on a sample taken for chemical analysis from Amersham Water Company's supply is published as Appendix 1 to this report.

### *Swimming Bath Water*

One sample of water was taken from the Swimming Bath at Bell House, Beaconsfield, and submitted for chemical analysis. The analyst reported that the water was in a satisfactory chemical condition.

### 3. *Sewerage and Sewering*

Two Sewage Disposal Works serve the district, the Holtspur Bottom Works, which is nearly 34 acres in extent, and the Hedgerley Lane Works of about 26 acres.

This year the main Trunk Sewers have been extended from Burgess Wood Road South along Pennington Road to Burkes Road to allow for sewerage to be provided in this developing area.

### 4. *Refuse Collection and Disposal*

The Council employ two refuse collecting vehicles, and a weekly collection is made from all premises within the district.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in a worked out gravel pit in Beaconsfield Common Lane.

## 5. *Salvage*

This service is carried out in conjunction with that of refuse collection, the men being paid a bonus of £1. 10s. 0d. per ton of waste paper collected. This has proved to be very successful.

## 6. *Cesspools*

The emptying of cesspools is carried out by the Council's 750-gallon vacuum machine. Every endeavour is made to provide a 24-hour service. During the year 667 cesspools were emptied.

## 7. *Nuisances*

During the year seven nuisances have been investigated : these are chiefly defective drains and deposits of refuse. Considerable assistance is given in this matter by the workmen engaged in refuse collection and cesspool emptying. Each squad gives a daily report into the office in which any matter requiring attention is specially mentioned. It is then investigated, reported, and the necessary action taken.

## 8. *Sanitary Accommodation*

All houses, except for a few isolated farms, are provided with water closets.

## 9. *Disinfection*

Disinfection has been carried out in five cases following Infectious Diseases.

## 10. *Rodent Control*

The Rodent Officer is Mr. W. R. Brookman. The district is regularly surveyed and the method of block control is operated where appropriate. During the year 107 separate infestations were dealt with successfully.

## D Housing

During the year 52 dwellings have been completed ; 24 of these comprise a group of Council flats at Maxwell Road (Scheme No. 8): 14 are houses comprising part of the Maxwell Road (Scheme No. 7) and the remaining 14 were built by private enterprise. This brings the total number of Council dwellings to 394, of which 170 have been built since World War II. At the end of 1950 there were 14 new Council houses under construction, all forming part of the Maxwell Road Housing Scheme.

## E Inspection and Supervision of Food

### 1. *Meat and other Foods*

There are three licensed slaughter-houses in the District, but due to Control by the Ministry of Food, no killing has been done apart from pigs for keeper's own use.

The following quantities of food were condemned at retail premises during the years:—

Home killed Meat	...	...	...	318	lbs.
Tinned Meat	...	...	...	95½	lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	6	lbs.
Poultry	...	...	...	48	lbs.
Wet Fish	...	...	...	3 st. 2	lbs.

### 2. *Milk*

There are 14 dairy farms within the District under the Control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

One pasteurising plant under the control of the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority, and one other retailer of milk.

Samples of milk taken during the year have been satisfactory.



## F Welfare Foods

The Local Food Office co-operate very loyally with the Welfare Centre, from which the Welfare Foods are distributed, in addition to those distributed by the Food Office. The percentages of the potential uptake in the Beaconsfield District area are given below. They are compiled by the Ministry of Food during the period ended on the 25th February, 1951, and show that the uptake of these foods in Beaconsfield is good and compares favourably with other districts.

ORANGE JUICE		COD LIVER OIL		A and D TABLETS	
Average Weekly Uptake	Percentage of Potential Uptake	Average Weekly Uptake	Percentage of Potential Uptake	Average Weekly Uptake	Percentage of Potential Uptake
207	58.0	50	48.1	10	45.4

## G Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year:—

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	95
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	33
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	2

Both cases of Acute Poliomyelitis (one child aged 6 years, non-paralytic, and one child aged 3 years, paralytic), were removed to Maidenhead Isolation Hospital.

In addition, two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in adults (one a re-notification) and one case of tuberculous cervical lymphadenitis in a child of 5½ years, were notified.

struction was satisfactorily completed on 12th June, 1951.

At Holtspur Sewage Works the excessive rainfall gave rise to flooding owing to the greatly increased amount of water delivered both by way of the foul sewer and the surface water sewer. The Council is considering the purchase of further land adjoining the Sewage Works.

At the same time and for the same reason the Hedgerley Lane Sewage Works were overworked because of the large amount of surface water which runs into the outfall sewer. The excess of surface water was at one time so great that it flowed over the road causing a serious subsidence which threatened the road to Hillmott's Farm.

### 3. Refuse Disposal and Salvage.

During the year the use of the Council's Refuse Disposal Site at Beaconsfield Common Lane was discontinued and a new site at Hare-Hatch Lane for this purpose was secured.

The *Salvage* returns for the year 1951 are as follows:—

	<i>Weight.</i>				<i>Value.</i>		
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1. Waste Paper	139	13	2	0	1,791	6	7
2. Rags ...	2	1	0	0	92	15	0
3. Lead ...	0	3	2	0	13	10	0
4. Brass ...	0	1	0	0	6	0	0
5. Copper ...	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
6. Scrap Iron	1	15	0	0	6	5	0
	143	15	0	0	£1,912	16	7

### CESSPOOLS

Number of Cesspools emptied in district ...	579
Number of Cesspools emptied out of district	22
Loads Disposed of ... ..	1,389
Refuse Bins emptied ... ..	113,041
Loads to shoot ... ..	864

### 4. Post-war Housing

The Council now owns a total number of 488 units of Housing Accommodation, all of which are of a permanent



nature except the 40 temporary bungalows erected in Holtspur Way as an emergency measure during the war.

Of the 448 permanent units, 224 were constructed before the 1939-45 war, and the remaining 224 have been erected since.

The type of accommodation provided is varied, and the following numbers of the various types show that an attempt has been made to meet the wide range of housing need:—

### 3 Bedroom (Parlour) Type Houses

20 — Candlemas Mead ...	...	...	20
-------------------------	-----	-----	----

### 3 Bedroom (Non-Parlour) Type Houses

60 — Candlemas Mead ...	...	...	60
28 — Garvin Avenue ...	...	...	28
20 — Chesterton Green ...	...	...	20
26 — Maxwell Road ...	...	...	26
4 — Ronald Road ...	...	...	4

### 4 Bedroom (Parlour) Type Houses

4 — Garvin Avenue ...	...	...	4
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### Bungalows

6 — Malthouse Square (O.A.P.s) ...	...	6
2 — Garvin Avenue ...	...	2

### Flats

24 — Stanmeadow ...	...	...	24
2 — Garvin Avenue ...	...	...	2

### 2 Bedroom (Non-Parlour) Type Houses

16 — Orchard Road ...	...	...	16
12 — Garvin Avenue ...	...	...	12

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224

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## E. SANITARY INSPECTION

The work of the Sanitary Inspector during the year was of a general and routine character. The reception given to the new bye-laws relating to Food Premises was on the whole good, and the trades effected have, in the main, been co-operative. Prominent in the routine work of the

Department was the inspection of houses under the Public Health and the Housing Acts. There remains a steady demand for housing accommodation to be provided by the Council, but it is only fair to say that the hard-core of applications on grounds of gross overcrowding or unsuitable or insanitary housing accommodation has been dealt with.

### 1. Sanitary Inspector's Visits

1. Number of Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	... ..	26
2. Number of Houses re-visited under Public Health Acts	... ..	47
3. Number of Houses inspected under Housing Acts		2
4. Number of Houses re-visited under Housing Acts		2
5. Number of Houses inspected for vermin	... ..	5
(Rooms disinfected)		3
6. Visits where infectious disease had occurred	... ..	4
7. Smoke observations	... ..	6
8. Visits in connection with drainage	... ..	5
9. Visits in connection with water supply	... ..	8
10. Visits to shops	... ..	43
11. Miscellaneous visits	... ..	85

### 2. Abatement of Nuisances

On the 31st December, 1950, there were four Informal Notices outstanding. During the year the following nuisances were reported: Dampness (3); Nuisance arising from smoke (2); Defective roof surface (4); Chimney stacks (2); Broken chimney pot (1); Defective guttering (5); Kitchen range and Fireplaces (3); Defective plasterwork (3); Dustbins (3); Miscellaneous (4). The majority of these were remedied during the year, requiring the service of 9 Informal Notices. Two Statutory Notices were served during the year.

### 3. Housing

I. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	59
(b) Number of Inspections for the purpose	... ..	86

II.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	NIL
III.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	7
IV.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of a Statutory Notice ...	40
	Number of Defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ...	7
Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—		
	Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	7
Housing Act, 1936: Overcrowding:—		
(a)	Number of dwellings for overcrowding relieved during the year ...	4
(b)	Number of families living therein ...	7
(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	30

All cases of overcrowding on the Housing Officer's list of applications for Council Houses.

#### 4. Rodent Control

At present there is one part-time Rodent Operative working under the supervision of the Rodent Officer.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act came into force on the 31st March, 1950, and requires the Council to submit an annual return to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The following figures are an abstract from Form PDR/2.

##### a. Type and Estimated Total Number of Premises

Local Authority ...	8
Dwelling-houses ...	2,258
Agricultural Property ...	17
Business and Industrial Premises ...	164
	<hr/> 2,447 <hr/>

**b. Classification of Infestations**

Major	...	...	...	...	...	7
Minor	...	...	...	...	...	84
Mice only	...	...	...	...	...	5

**c. Notices Served**

Under Section 4	...	...	...	...	7
Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	...	...	...	...	3
Proceedings under Sections 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 22	...	...	...	...	NIL

It is interesting to note in connection with rodent control that in recent years an adjoining local authority has sought powers to include the edible dormouse (Glis-glís) among the category of pests. It appears that the glis-glís was introduced into Great Britain some fifty years ago and has spread over some 100 square miles of Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire, and it seems that there have been reports of its presence in other countries. The following description by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries deserves wider circulation to assist in early recognition.

"This animal has a body up to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ins. long, thick soft fur and a bushy tail. It is perhaps best described to the layman as resembling a large mouse with the tail and fur of a squirrel. It does not assume the characteristic posture of the squirrel of sitting upright on its haunches, but crouches flat on all fours like the mouse.

It has been found in woods in summer, when it breeds, and usually nests in trees. It is believed to exist in a state of semi-hibernation from about November until April and from then on it may invade houses where it usually settles down in the loft, feeding often on stored apples."

## F INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### 1. Milk

*Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.*

*Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.*

*Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.*

With the coming into operation of the above regulations, Local Authorities were relieved of their duties in regard to Milk production which passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Since then Local Sanitary Authorities have been mainly concerned with milk distribution, its handling and treatment at premises other than dairy farms. Under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, new powers were invested in Medical Officers of Health with regard to Infected Milk.

The Regulations empower the Medical Officer of Health, if he has evidence which satisfies him that any person is suffering from a disease caused by the consumption of milk, or that milk is infected with any disease communicable to man, to prohibit by notice the sale of the milk, or alternatively to require its heat treatment before sale. If the Medical Officer of Health has reasonable grounds for belief that a person is so suffering, or that milk is so infected, he may require the heat treatment of the milk before sale. These notices are used mainly when milk is found to be infected with *Brucella abortus*—the organism which gives rise to “slipped calves” in cows—and Tuberculosis.

To ensure that infected milk is not sold for human consumption, there is close co-operation between the local Medical Officer of Health, the local Divisional Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the appropriate department of the Bucks County Council who, under the Food and Drugs Acts, take samples of milk for investigation.

One such sample of milk showed that the milk was infected with Tuberculosis. The milk was subject to heat treatment before being sold to the public and was, therefore, regarded

as safe for human consumption. The local Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries took eighteen samples from the herd and the source of infection was traced to a Freisian cow which was slaughtered under the requirements of the Tuberculosis Order of 1938.

In this connection it is worth noting that whilst the public is safeguarded against infection by adequate heat treatment of milk prior to sale, members of the farmers' families themselves who are supplied direct from the dairy were not necessarily so protected. Upon inquiring in this case as to what milk was being fed to the farmer's infant grandchild the answer given was "Dried Milk" obtained from a neighbouring town. I mention this because this was the second year in succession that this has happened at this same farm.

The increasing attention given to the supply of safe milk is worthy of note. Under the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, Section 19, the Minister of Food may by Order specify areas the effect of which is that all milk sold by retail within the areas listed must be specially designated milk, that is Pasteurised Milk; Sterilised Milk; T.T.; or (until the 30th September, 1954) Accredited Milk from a single herd. At present apart from Orders affecting parts of Scotland, only one Order applies to Southern England. This Order affects the London and Portsmouth areas and includes the whole of Middlesex and parts of Hertfordshire. Early this year the Minister declared his intention of laying before Parliament another Order bringing in such large towns as Birmingham, Bristol, Bath, Liverpool and Nottingham for this purpose. It is proposed that the New Order should come into operation as soon as possible after the 30th September, 1952.

The relevance of this at the present juncture is that I understand a survey is being conducted to ascertain whether the Urban District of Beaconsfield should be included in any further Order the Minister may make.

During the year 4 samples of bottled milk in respect of which the special designation "Pasteurised" was in use were collected from licensed distributors and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, and all proved satisfactory.



The following licences were issued:—

A. Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" ...	2
B. Supplementary licence authorising use of special designation "Tuberculin Tested" ... ..	1
C. Special Designation "Pasteurised" ... ..	3

*Food and Drugs Acts.*

*Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 — Article 20.*

*Tuberculosis Order, 1938. Tuberculous Milk.*

A sample of milk taken at the dairy-farm of a non-designated milk producer proved to be positive for the bacilli of Tuberculosis. Samples of milk involving 18 cows, were taken by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, for biological testing. One cow was found to have Tuberculosis of the right hind quarter of udder. Tubercle bacilli were found microscopically. This cow, a Freisian, "Bluebell," was slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938; the samples of milk from the remainder of the herd, when submitted to biological examination, showed no evidence of Tuberculosis.

## 2. (a) Meat.

There is no authorised slaughterhouse operating in Beaconsfield and apart from certain emergency slaughtering at farms or smallholdings, home-killed meat for human consumption is delivered from authorised slaughterhouses in adjoining districts in Buckinghamshire and Berkshire.

## (b) Condemned Foodstuffs

Beef	...	...	1 cwt. 31 lbs.
Turkeys	...	...	86 lbs. 9 ozs.
Ox Liver	...	...	2 lbs.
Fish: Halibut	...	...	14 lbs.
Haddock	...	...	10½ lbs.
Plaice	...	...	56 lbs.
Skate	...	...	56 lbs.

**(c) Tinned Goods**

Meat: Corned Beef	...	18 lbs
Ham	... ..	99 lbs. 13 ozs.
Tongue	... ..	3 lbs.
Jellied Veal	...	24 lbs.
Luncheon Meat	...	12 lbs.
Pork	... ..	1 lb. 13 ozs.

**3. Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have been in operation since 1950. They require the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and the sale of food in the open air. During visits to food premises attention is given to the observance of these Byelaws.

**4. Dogs in Food Shops, Restaurants, etc.**

A circular from the Ministry of Food said that the Minister, whilst agreeing that in the interests of hygiene dogs should not be allowed in food shops, he was of opinion that the problem was one for voluntary action rather than prohibitive legislation. He recommended that local authorities should consider the advantage of encouraging food traders to display a Notice signed by the Medical Officer of Health requesting customers not to bring dogs into the premises. The Council decided to accept the recommendation and approved the printing of notices on the lines suggested by the Ministry for distribution to all Food Traders in the District.

**5. Ice Cream**

In connection with the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947, frequent visits have been made to premises where ice-cream is sold.

There are no premises registered where ice-cream is manufactured, but there are 12 registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream. Twelve samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination; of these 3 were in Grade IV; 2 in Grade III; 4 in Grade II and 3 in Grade I of the Provisional Grading Scheme.

**6. Food Poisoning Notifications**

There were no cases of food-poisoning notified during the year.



## Part I of the Act

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	5	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	22	10	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) .. ..	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	27	15	Nil	Nil

2.—Cases in which **Defects** were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. ..					
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .. ..					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient .. ..					
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..					
(c) Not separate for sexes .. ..					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
TOTAL .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

## APPENDIX I

## BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

Public Analyst's Department,  
Health Services Department,  
Walworth Road, S.E.17.

D. F. H. Button, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,  
Public Analyst.

Report on the Analysis of a sample of water received from the  
Beaconsfield Urban District Council, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

Sample of water from tap in Holtspur Garage,  
supplied by Marlow and District Water Company.

Appearance .....	Clear and Colourless
Reaction (pH) .....	7.5
	Parts per Million
Free Chlorine .....	nil
Total Solids .....	324
Chlorine in Chlorides .....	15.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....	nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen .....	nil
Nitrate Nitrogen .....	4.0
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98° F.) .....	nil
Hardness, Temporary .....	242
Permanent .....	25
Total .....	267
Metals — Lead, Copper, Zinc .....	Not found

From these results I am of opinion that this water is chemically  
of high purity and suitable for drinking and domestic use.

(Signed) D. F. H. BUTTON,  
Public Analyst.

## APPENDIX II

### BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

Public Analyst's Department,  
Health Services Department,  
Walworth Road, S.E.17.

D. F. H. Button, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,  
Public Analyst.

Report on the Analysis of a sample of water received from the  
Beaconsfield Urban District Council, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

Sample of water supplied by the Rickmansworth  
and Uxbridge Valley Water Company.

Appearance .....	Clear and Colourless
Reaction (pH) .....	7.1
	Parts per Million
Free Chlorine .....	nil
Total Solids .....	324
Chlorine in Chlorides .....	15.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....	nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen .....	nil
Nitrate Nitrogen .....	4.0
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98° F.) .....	nil
Hardness, Temporary .....	230
Permanent .....	42
Total .....	272
Metals — Lead, Copper, Zinc .....	Not found

From these results I am of opinion that this water is chemically  
of high purity and suitable for drinking and domestic use.

(Signed) D. F. H. BUTTON,  
Public Analyst.